

and widening in that not only the nurse herself desires to take such part in the efforts for social betterment and social welfare, but that also the community desires and sometimes almost clamors for her. It is not necessary to make any formal application, but I am sure that the secretary will be glad to send the prospectus to those wishing it. This course has from time to time been touched upon in *THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF NURSING*, but with any evidence of a desire to hear in detail of it I doubt not that all the information will be given in the fullest manner. After all questions to Mrs. von Wagner have ceased, I should like very much to ask the next speaker of the evening to present her paper. This again is on the lines that we have been following all day, that is, "The Relation of Nursing to Social and Philanthropic Work," Miss M. E. Smith.

### THE RELATION OF NURSING TO SOCIAL AND PHILANTHROPIC WORK

By MISS M. E. SMITH

Late Visiting Nurses' Association, Detroit, Mich.

"In taking up the subject which now challenges our consideration I shall not attempt to give any scientific definition or outline of social and philanthropic effort. It will be sufficient if we note some of the salient points connected with it, our purpose being to gain such a knowledge as shall clearly show the relation of nursing to this work.

"The work itself is as old as the human race, and its needs as varied. To successfully carry it on, the integrity of the family must be maintained, right relations must be established between rich and poor, and the responsibilities of the prosperous must be conscientiously assumed by them. It finds its best expression in charity *strengthened by justice*—charity *without justice* is as ineffective towards the betterment of mankind as a poultice would be applied to a wooden leg—would that it were as harmless! Charity *without justice* well merits the rebuke contained in the French epigram, 'Charity creates one-half of the misery she relieves, but cannot relieve one-half of the misery she creates,' and the sting is in the truth it expresses.

"It has been said that social questions are expressions of moral energy, and that the effectiveness of social and philanthropic effort lies in the scope of its sympathy, the dimensions of its givings, and its recognition of fellowship with lives hitherto ignored or rejected by the world. I will add that it also lies in the tendency of the current day towards associated effort for the carrying on of practical and specific benevolent work, and perhaps most of all in the love and hope, the courage and patience, the sympathy and wisdom, of those actively engaged in it, and who every day breathe into it new vigor and greater freedom.

"Thus far three things appear clear to us:

- "1. The real existence of the work.
- "2. The need of organized effort to carry it on.
- "3. The need of individual effort whereby it may be quickened into true life in the noble hosts of the poor.
- "*Consolidation* for the provision of the means and methods necessary for the carrying on of the work.
- "*Individualization* for the actual elevation and redemption of the poor, especially those who are in sickness and distress.

"What have we *as nurses* to offer towards the carrying on of such work? Much! And the intrinsic value of which is only beginning to be recognized and appreciated.

"Philanthropic effort to-day calls for personal devotion and demands self-discipline, wisdom, and training. Anyone who is at all in touch with district nursing will readily admit that the nurses take all these qualities into their work—the work that takes them into the homes of the honest mechanic, into the living places (or rather, I should say, into the *existing* places) of the respectable and worthy poor, and even into the haunts of the paupers, the slave of poverty, if not the actual prey of licentiousness and intemperance. Through their ministrations in countless numbers of cases the integrity of the home is maintained and practical lessons in the value of sunlight, fresh air, and water are given that will prove to be more powerful remedial and preventive agents than any amount of medicine, either judiciously or injudiciously prescribed. They never lose sight of the fact that, all other things being equal, fresh air, sunshine, and water are among the most powerful forces we can pit against that grim couple—Disease and Dirt. When we add to that their sympathetic and skilled care of those sick and in trouble, and their almost unlimited tact displayed many times under circumstances trying in the extreme, then shall we begin to realize that nurses are a power in this particular phase of social and philanthropic effort.

"Their work will be found to be especially effective in the fight with tuberculosis. After the State has done all it can or will do towards the establishment of special sanatoria for the care of consumptives, after the municipality has established special hospitals and free dispensaries for similar purposes, after continuous distribution of free literature giving simple and explicit directions for the care of those thus afflicted, the dread disease will still be found in our midst, and the truth will sooner or later force itself upon us that, in the end, the monster must be fought and conquered in the homes of the poor. That is now his stronghold and will eventually be his final lair. Unless we can dislodge him thence, we can never be safe from him. Insufficient and improper food, impure air, hard toil, and close confinement are his strongest allies.

In the hand-to-hand conflict that must come (and the sooner the better) none will do more effective work than the district nurses. They thoroughly understand the conditions of these homes, and have won for themselves through their own untiring efforts that love and confidence of the people which will insure obedience to instructions given by them. Their personal influence and constant contact with the people will be to them an arm of strength that must be reckoned with in the coming struggle.

"Then too there is a great field for nurses' work in the public schools. Perhaps there has been no more impressive fact brought to light in the management of the Japanese forces in the great war now being waged than the way in which they have *prevented* disease in the rank and file of their men. Prevention of disease is surely more glorious than the healing of it. We in America cannot afford to let that object lesson go unheeded. In our schools is an army greater than those on the fields of Manchuria or floating on far eastern waters. They represent the future strength or weakness of this nation. Among them are communicable diseases that can be prevented; care for slight ailments can be given during school hours, thus preventing loss of time to the pupils, and proper personal and hygienic instruction imparted to children approaching and of the age of adolescence. This is all of infinite importance to the children and through them to the future of the people. It is essentially nurses' work. The good accomplished in the home will be strengthened by the instruction given in the schools, and *vice-versa*. Too much emphasis cannot be given to the importance of this work in the schools.

"So much for the *Individualization* that makes for the actual elevation and redemption of the poor, and the part the nurse must take in it in times of sickness and of health.

"We will now consider her part in the *Consolidation*, that makes for the provision of the means and methods necessary for the carrying on of the work.

"Consolidation is for the most part represented by charity organizations,—charity spelled with a small c,—and these are managed by Executive Boards—I take the ground that a well-balanced board should be composite in character. There should be on it those who understand the practical management of its finances, those who are competent to deal with the ethical problems that present themselves, and those who can intelligently and authoritatively interpret to the management the duties and the needs of the nurses employed in the work. For this last duty, all other things being equal, none are so well qualified as trained nurses,—particularly those who are not engaged in district nursing,—the

reason for which you will find in what follows; with such representation upon the board, the nurses engaged in the practical work will always be sure of a sympathetic and professional understanding of their efforts by the management. Nor will this influence and understanding be confined to the members of the board only. Owing to the nature of the work engaged in by many of them, they have frequent opportunities of discussing the subject with people of means and power, people who only have to be shown the value of the work in order to secure from them their hearty coöperation and support. Taking this into consideration, it would be impossible to estimate the value of their work and influence, it is so rational, so far reaching, and so constant. It is a matter of the greatest surprise to me that such Executive Boards do not eagerly seek for members from among this class of workers. But such, I am told, is not the case—in fact, the opposite is true. Speaking of the work I know the best, that of 'The Visiting Nurses' Association of Detroit,' it is with pleasure and profound satisfaction that I tell you it is an exception to this rule—a rule and practice that, I trust, may soon become obsolete. From the time of its organization, seven years ago, until now it has always had professional nurses on its Executive Board. In their last annual report, just issued, official recognition and commendation of the value of the services rendered by these women appear as follows: It speaks of the work of the various standing committees, and of the House Committee it says in part, 'The duties of this committee require time and attention that are not adequately represented in their brief and informal reports, and their work illustrates the dependence of the board upon the good sense and fidelity of its members.' Then comes the following: 'Another exponent of this kind of service is the Committee on Nurses' Work, with Mrs. L. E. Gretter as chairman. The report given at the monthly meeting may be the briefest, but it stands for entire familiarity with the practical work of the preceding four weeks. Emergencies have been met, substitutes provided, necessary medical supplies obtained through proper sources, charts received and inspected, and needed advice and encouragement given. In the absence of a paid superintendent the board should understand and recognize how much is due to the devoted service of this committee, and especially to its chairman. The value of having professional nurses as members of the active board is here apparent, and it should be noted that the Detroit Association is unique in this respect.' In the special report of auxiliary work, given in this same annual report, the work of the Farrand Training-School Alumnae Association is thus described:

"Among these auxiliaries is the Farrand Training-School Alumnae Association, which has been represented from the first on this Execu-

tive Board by a delegate annually elected by the alumnae of the Training-School and by their honorary president, Mrs. L. E. Gretter, principal of the Farrand Training-School, elected from the membership at large of this association. Since the beginning of this united work these two women have served continuously on the Nurses' Committee, and for three years the delegate from the Alumnae Association acted as secretary of this body. During a part of the time other members of the Executive Board have served on the Nurses' Committee with them, and the remainder of the time they have served alone. This committee has had charge of all matters pertaining to the nurses and to the nursing department. At their suggestion the different nurses of the staff have been sent, after a year's service, to other cities for field work and observation of all methods pertaining to district nursing. The first to be sent was Miss Sutherland, who went to the Nursing Settlement, New York City. The expenses of this trip were in part met by the personal contributions and money collected by the efforts of this auxiliary. The following year Miss Jeanette Smith was sent to Chicago for a month, and almost the entire expense that time was met by this auxiliary. A year later Miss Aylesworth was sent to Boston, and this time the entire expenses were met by this auxiliary, together with quite a sum over, which they allowed to be used towards furnishing uniforms for the nurses. In addition to this they have annually contributed a sum ranging from twenty-five dollars to fifty dollars and usually it has been the latter amount.'

"Thus it will be seen that nurses have a part to perform, not only in the actual district nursing, but upon the Executive Boards, and in diffusing a correct knowledge of the work, its needs and importance, among the prosperous people whom they meet. In all these different ways nurses may lend their professional training to the furtherance of social and philanthropic effort, and an influence be wielded for good that shall be great beyond all computation. Let me illustrate the power of this influence. In *the individual* it may be compared to the tiny blade in a turbine engine, a blade no larger than a lady's little finger, small indeed—in *the aggregate* it far transcends the combined power represented in the innumerable blades in the engines of one of the grey-hounds of the ocean. As in the turbine, there are the 'fixed' blades—those engaged in the practical work; and there are the 'moving' blades—those who lend their influence to the furtherance of the work, whether on Executive Boards or among the rich and prosperous. The 'fixed' blades act as guides to deliver the steam with proper direction and velocity against the 'moving' blades. Thus the full power of the steam is utilized and in a direct and continuous way. Through the temper and wisdom gained by our training we, as nurses, may become

a mighty social dynamic, full of potential worth. In all this varied activity it is their quality as nurses that is of value and importance. They are as essential to that part of the work that guides and directs these efforts as they are to the field work. To alleviate without removing the cause will but prove an anæsthetic to the poor, only keeping them from realizing their condition.

"To cabin, crib, confine such a power as is ours is a responsibility we have no wish to assume, and, I believe, one that associated workers in social and philanthropic effort dare not.

"The Present Time—youngest born of Eternity, child and heir of all Past Times, with their good and evil, and parent of all the Future—is ever a new Era to the thinking man. To know it, and what it bids us do, is ever the sum of knowledge for all of us."

MISS WALD.—Our programme for the day closes with some further discussion, and perhaps some slight elaboration on the excellent suggestions in Miss Smith's paper. The nurses in the training-schools, however much we may estimate and value the training that they have received, lack the knowledge of what other people are doing. I think that some of the training-schools are aware of that and are trying to supplement training and further prepare the pupils under their charge; the hospital on Blackwell's Island is such a one. I understand there is a representative here from that hospital, and will she please tell us what is being done in her hospital for this further social preparation.

MISS PINDELL.—I am very much pleased to have an opportunity to speak to you about the work in the Tuberculosis Infirmary on Blackwell's Island. This infirmary was opened in the early part of the year 1902. At that time the buildings at the north end of the island that had been occupied by the insane were vacated and through the Commissioner, Hon. Homer Folks, gradually put in thorough repair and occupied by the consumptives.

In reference to the nursing at that time, it was done by the pupils in the Training-School, but when you consider that we had then about ninety cases, and now have over five hundred as an average, you will readily understand that it soon became rather a problem for us as to how we were to care for the increased number of patients. In October, 1903, we investigated the question by writing to about forty institutions and asking for their methods, also inquiring as to the salaries paid; we heard from about twenty-six. It was rather interesting and encouraging to note that one institution had been given up as a sanitarium for consumptives and was then being used as a hotel. We found the graduate nurses were holding supervising positions which paid about fifty dollars per month; nurses under them, or assistants, were paid from twenty to thirty dollars per month. In some of the institutions they had attendants, some of whom had been patients in the institutions; they were on salary, of course, but lower, usually, we found, not under eighteen dollars. Those who were interested in our institution were very anxious to have the nursing done by the pupils, but owing to the information received, and the fact that we required the pupils for another wing in the hospital, opened for a male medical service, it was decided to employ graduate or experienced nurses for the infirmary at twenty-five dollars per month. The plan has been very satisfactory, but in

order to interest more graduates in the work, we are considering an increase in the salaries, and inaugurating a course of lectures along sociological lines. We should be very much pleased to have the opinion of some of those present.

MISS WALD.—I do not know whether there has been enough experience in that respect, but perhaps Miss Nutting will tell you something of the lecture course which she has introduced into the training at Johns Hopkins Training-School.

MISS NUTTING.—I presume you mean the short course of lectures which has been given to the senior class each year on subjects about which we think it important that all nurses should have some knowledge, particularly those who do district nursing. While I have not yet been able to make this course of lectures just what I would like, no year has passed for the last seven years when we have not been fortunate enough to secure the aid of the various men and women representing some forms of philanthropic, charitable, or social work. Each year, for instance, we have had lectures from the general secretary of the Charity Organization Society, from those in charge of institutions devoted to child-saving effort, from probation officers in connection with the Juvenile Court, and from settlement workers. We have had that good Samaritan, Mrs. von Wagner, and Miss Wald, and even on one occasion we were fortunate enough to get Miss Addams, of Hull House, Chicago. There is, in fact, no form of active social work existing in Baltimore of which we have not tried to inform our nurses so that they may understand their relationship to such bodies of workers when they begin work outside the Training-School. This last year we made a slight change and arranged for a series of classes covering the ground included in most of these subjects, and placed the whole series in the hands of Mrs. John Glenn, whom you all know. She herself arranged the schedule of work, and this regular course of study, covering a period of six weeks, was systematically provided.

I do not know that there is anything more to add, but feel sure that there are other schools which have been able to do probably more than we have in this direction.

MISS WALD.—I think Miss Damer has had a better opportunity for comparison than many others here, and I think if she is willing we would be glad to hear a word or two from her as to the relation of the nurse to other sociological and philanthropic work.

MISS DAMER.—It is getting very late, but I would like to say that I do realize the importance of the nurse's relationship to all lines of philanthropic work. A nurse has an experience that no other worker has. Miss Jane Addams says that district nursing is one of the most popular charities, ministering as it does to obvious needs without investigation, and charity workers often say to the district nurses, "You have opportunities of knowing the families and coming in touch with their real life and experience that no other worker has; they will talk over things with you that they will not with us, for they look upon us only as investigators. They know the nurse comes to do something, and she is established on a friendly footing at once, as a real friend to the family." It is interesting, as our experience grows, to notice the growing esteem of other workers and the value placed upon the nurse's knowledge and experience in the broad, wide lines of philanthropic work, not only in her actual dealing with the family, but in general social and preventive work, especially in the efforts made for the amelioration of the condition of women and children in industrial life, laboring in our stores and factories.

Only the other day Mrs. Florence Kelly, of the National Child Labor Committee, speaking to our district nurses in New York, said, "You nurses can do more than you realize, you have such a power from your knowledge in speaking to people, and you can do so much more than anyone else can." It is so pleasing to know that our nurses are waking up to that fact. We have for such a long time devoted ourselves to the actual technical work. We are broadening ourselves now, and everything that will tend to be of help to us should be encouraged, such as lecture courses. As Miss Pindell said in speaking of tuberculosis, I find also in district nursing it is a little difficult to get nurses to devote themselves to that work entirely, so that opportunities should be given them of making the work more attractive and helpful in the early days of these experiments we are undertaking.

At a request from the floor Miss Wald gave an interesting sketch of the Nursing Settlement from its foundation to the present day, and at the conclusion said: "Now, with a great many thanks for the courtesy and attention that the papers have received all day, and with a great deal of appreciation of the honor that it has been to me to preside over these papers, the formal programme of the evening will be considered closed and I will turn the chair over to Miss Riddle.

Miss Nevins proposed a rising vote of thanks for Miss Wald and the other speakers of the evening, which was most heartily given.

MISS CABR.—I fail to see, Madam President, why it is so difficult to persuade nurses to take up this work, since the interest we all feel is so great.

Miss Goodrich thought the superintendents at fault.

PRESIDENT.—We will try to do better in the future. And now I am sure that I express the sentiment of the convention here assembled when I say that we cannot be too grateful to Miss Wald for the great interest she has shown in taking charge of and conducting this programme and the interest she has brought out from every member present. As I understand it, we are to convene to-morrow morning in the hall where we assembled this morning and continue with our business. We have but one session to-morrow, and as we have considerable to do it will be very necessary to begin promptly. If there is no further business or no questions, we will adjourn.

The meeting is adjourned to meet to-morrow (Friday, May 5).

*Friday, May 5, 1905.*

Meeting called to order at ten o'clock.

PRESIDENT.—The hour has arrived when we should continue our meeting, and we will open this morning's session with the roll-call.

Roll-call by the secretary.

PRESIDENT.—We have next in order the reports from several committees and we will first hear from the committee appointed last upon the ways and means for securing the ownership of the JOURNAL. I will call upon the chairman of that committee, Miss Damer, to make the report.

MISS DAMER.—The committee appointed last year when we met decided that they would begin their work by writing to the associations that were not already owners of stock in the JOURNAL, with the idea that they might possibly be induced to buy some shares, and we did so by writing to forty-three societies, with the result that during the year eighteen shares of stock have been taken by societies.

So you see that there are very few shares remaining unsold; there have



been demands for these shares from individuals, but the directors had decided that for one year they should be held open to the *alumnæ* associations, and the committee felt it advisable to go on in the same way that we have been doing in order that the remainder of the shares may be taken by the *alumnæ* associations. At present forty-three shares of the one hundred are held by the *alumnæ* associations, and one share belongs to the national society. We hoped in this way to secure the controlling interest in the JOURNAL, and eventually that all the shares will be held by our societies, and it seems the easiest and simplest way to accomplish that without demanding that the national association should raise a large sum of money. Later on we hope that the societies will transfer as they can, either by selling or by giving their shares to the national association to be held by us and not individually, but we feel that from the general interest that is being taken in the JOURNAL that it is our own magazine and belongs to us altogether, and that we must all do our share in interesting others and in making it a success, and the committee has nothing further to suggest to you, unless the suggestions come from the members, than that we should go on in the same way until we can gain possession of the JOURNAL. I think possibly there may be one or two shares taken very soon, but up to date we have just sold the eighteen for the year, which I think is quite a gain.

MISS MOISAAC.—I would like to say just one thing that may be of interest to the nurses, and that is that while there are only ten shares remaining, that there are a number of associations that are not stockholders, and that there are a number of individual shareholders who hold more than one share, and these individual shareholders have signified their willingness to sell their shares at any time to any society after the said ten shares are disposed of—that is, the unsold shares. I say this because we often have inquiries from the different associations saying that they have heard from some quarter that there were no more shares, and many individual shareholders would be willing to sell, not to other individuals, but to the *alumnæ* associations. I think the balance of power in the stockholders now is pretty nearly in their own hands, and it will belong largely to the associations if a few more shares are sold. We all feel that an interest has been taken, and we hope that it will not be very many years before the JOURNAL actually does belong to the Associated *Alumnæ*.

PRESIDENT.—The directors voted at their last meeting to give the *alumnæ* associations opportunities for purchasing shares for one year after the expiration of that time.

On motion of Miss Halsey, seconded by Miss Rhodes, the report was accepted.

PRESIDENT.—Possibly there may be some other questions concerning the JOURNAL or something that someone may have to propose in the interest of the JOURNAL at this time.

MISS DAVIS.—I should like to make a motion that this society itself purchase two shares. I think you will all remember that we have a good deal of money in the treasury, and I make a motion that we purchase two shares for a beginning.

Motion seconded by Miss Healy and carried.

MISS NUTTING.—If it is in order, I would like to present a motion to this assembly. There are nearly one hundred *alumnæ* associations represented, and I feel quite sure that not one of these *alumnæ* associations would object to placing ten dollars during the coming year in the Associated *Alumnæ* treasury. If each delegate would go home and ask her *alumnæ* to do this, I feel that not

one would refuse, and I would like to move, therefore, that these delegates be asked to return to their individual associations and ask them to contribute ten dollars to the Associated Alumnae for the purpose of purchasing the JOURNAL.

Seconded by Miss Smith and carried.

MISS PALMER.—I just want to say one word in regard to a little change we are going to make in the monthly routine of the JOURNAL business. It has been the custom since the JOURNAL was organized for the secretary of the Associated Alumnae to have charge of the official department—that is, to receive and to prepare all of the official reports that come in from the organizations all over the country. Now when we began we had comparatively few organizations, but the work has gotten absolutely unreasonable, and it has been decided by the directors recently that beginning with this year in the change of the secretaryship, all of the official reports shall be sent directly to the editor's office in Rochester, and I wish you would save a great deal of trouble and confusion during the next few months by taking that message home to the secretaries of your associations. Tell them not to send them to Miss Thornton, but to the editor directly, in Rochester; they will be taken care of there and acknowledged when necessary. Miss Thornton's work in this respect has been constant and untiring and has been done under great stress of other duties, and I make my personal acknowledgments for that service.

MISS WHITAKER.—The Committee on Arrangements in Philadelphia after settling up its affairs has some money left from the proceeds of the advertisements in the programmes. The committee has decided that the most fitting disposition to make of this money is to give it to the Associated Alumnae. Therefore, as chairman of that committee, I take great pleasure in presenting to the Associated Alumnae one hundred dollars in gold to be used for the purchase of one share of stock in THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF NURSING. [Applause.]

PRESIDENT.—I am sure on behalf of the Associated Alumnae I can say nothing in the way of an expression of gratitude that equals your demonstration, and nothing more seems to be required. I only hope other Committees on Arrangements will emulate this conduct and be as economical and have their affairs as well managed as was our convention in Philadelphia last year. I will pass this to the treasurer.

MISS CASEY.—I should like to inquire whether alumnae associations which are not members of the national association may invest in the stock.

PRESIDENT.—I think the better way would be to join the Associated Alumnae, and then you could surely be a purchaser. I could not insure that you could be a purchaser otherwise, because that is a question that would have to be decided by the Board of Directors managing the JOURNAL stock.

If there is nothing further to be said upon the subject of the JOURNAL, we would like to pass on to the next item of business and call for the report of the committee on the resolution which was offered yesterday.

MISS NEVINS.—You will remember that yesterday morning the resolution on a special commission on housing conditions in the National Capitol, which was asked for by the President of the United States, was brought up before this association. Miss Wald was made temporary chairman. There was a meeting last night and I was appointed the chairman of that committee for the reason that I live in Washington, and I want to explain it to you. As you know, anything we get in Washington has to come through the two houses of Congress, and in order to have anything in the way of efforts towards benefiting the public health or housing, tenements or anything at all in the city of Wash-

ington, it must come through both houses of Congress. One of the difficulties, perhaps, that we have had through our registration bill is because of the larger body and the less attention that naturally would be given certain things which are to them of so much less importance. What we ask is that when this committee is organized here in Washington, and when you receive communications, as you will do, what we ask for is your support and coöperation towards that end.

**PRESIDENT.**—You have heard the report of that committee and the excellent advice therein contained. We will next call for the report of the Programme Committee.

**MISS NUTTING.**—The chairman of the Programme Committee reports that it was found impossible to obtain even one meeting of the Programme Committee, and the work of planning for the convention had to be carried on almost entirely by correspondence and by frequent conferences with Miss Nevins, the chairman of the Committee on Arrangements, to whom many of the details were left entirely. It was decided to devote at least one day of the convention to the consideration of a special subject, placing the chairmanship of that day in the hands of an expert in that particular subject. "District and Visiting Nursing" was selected, and we were fortunate in obtaining Miss Wald's consent to act as chairman for that day. It was also decided not to limit the papers necessarily to members of the alumnae, but to try to secure the aid of those of prominence in certain forms of nursing work, whether members or not. The work of the committee has been greatly facilitated by the prompt and hearty responses which have come to its appeals for papers, discussions, etc., and wishes to take this opportunity of thanking them.

**PRESIDENT.**—We have been accepting the work of this Programme Committee for the last two days; therefore we will have no more formal acceptance of it; we cannot do better than follow the outlines they have presented to us. We have before us now the report of the Education Committee, which was prepared and presented in the absence of the chairman by another member of the committee, Miss Tippet.

The secretary read the report of the Committee on Education.

**"MADAM PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATED ALUMNAE:** Your Committee on Condensing Reports has much pleasure in reporting decided progress, evident in the more than sixty reports from the various local associations received. In most there is an increase in numbers and marked interest in the questions and movements of the day in our profession. We note specially the nurse in the public schools, the crusade against tuberculosis, State registration, and wider and higher education. There is still the question of how to bring skilled nursing to the people of moderate means, 'our own class,' as our president has so rightly called it, and the call for classes in the study of parliamentary law. Among the suggestions of work for the coming year come the questions of how to prevent the establishment of inefficient and, if we may be allowed to use the word, 'bogus' schools of nursing, also that a course of instruction calculated to keep graduates in practical knowledge of new methods and new medicines be arranged. Your committee would urge, from its own sad experience, a practical course in business methods, laying special stress upon *writing reports*, for although pains were taken to simplify everything as much as possible by preparing and sending out blanks with plain questions to be answered, many were returned with neither the name of the alumnae nor the signature of the secretary, thus making the answers valueless. We regret that many of the reports were received so late that we cannot present them in tabulated form, as we wished, but we shall be glad to prepare them for the printer and so present them later.

"Respectfully submitted,

"ALICE O. TIPPET,

"For the Committee."

Alumnae Associations.	Membership.	New members.	Resignations.	Deaths.	Dismissal.	Meetings.	Work accomplished.
Hartford Hospital, Hartford, Conn.	87	10	2	...	...	Four—business and social.	Nurses' Benefit Association organized.
Presbyterian Hospital, Philadelphia, Pa.	124	8	...	...	...	Monthly—six business, six educational and social. Educational included (a) five classes in parliamentary law. (b) One—The History of THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF NURSING. (Miss Palmer.)	Reception to graduating class. Reception to Miss Palmer. Four children in India supported. One hundred dollars given to congregation of James F. Magee Memorial Chapel, Philadelphia.
Hospital of the Good Shepherd, Syracuse, N. Y.	60	8	...	2	...	Twelve—two special. All combined business with social and educational purposes.	Papers read on current topics. News of the nursing world, its progress, etc.
Mt. Sinai Hospital, N. Y. C.	125	40	1	...	1	Nine—eight regular, one special. Also five directors' meetings. All combined business with educational and social purposes.	Reception to State Association. Tenth anniversary of Alumnae Association celebrated by party. Papers of interest read at association meetings. Refreshments served.
Paterson General Hospital, N. J.	32	...	2	1	15	Five—three regular, two special.	District nursing started. Each nurse pledged to do certain amount charity work during year.
New York Hospital, N. Y.	264	16	3	0	6	Eight—for business and social purposes.	Club-house, accommodating over a hundred members, established.
St. Joseph's Hospital, Paterson, N. J.	15	5	1	...	...	Two.	Establishing a fund for sick nurses.
Brooklyn Homeopathic Hospital, N. Y.	60	...	...	1	2	Four business and one social meeting.	.....
Western Pennsylvania Hospital.	70	28	...	...	...	Nine meetings—for business, educational, and social purposes.	Lectures given on current events and parliamentary law. Dance and boat excursion once a year.
Baltimore City Hospital.	18	6	...	...	...	Four meetings—for business, educational, and social purposes.	One share of stock taken in THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF NURSING.
Columbia and Children's Hospitals, Washington, D. C.	56	6	1	...	4	Monthly meeting—for business, educational, and social purposes.	Two sick benefits paid during year.
Johns Hopkins, Baltimore, Md.	300	25	...	...	...	Four—business, educational, social, and philanthropic.	Addresses given at each meeting by some authority on educational or philanthropic lines. Association acted in conjunction with Consumers' League, Maryland Society, for prevention of tuberculosis, State Registration of Nurses, Friends' Press Association for Purity of Press. Aid by members of association to Columbia College. Purchase of another share of stock in AMERICAN JOURNAL OF NURSING. Efforts to increase subscriptions of AMERICAN JOURNAL OF NURSING. Continued publication of the Johns Hopkins Alumnae Journal. Increase of nurses' library at Nurses' Club-House.
Methodist Episcopal Hospital, Brooklyn, N. Y.	97	20	1	...	...	Ten—business and social.	Reception given to graduating class. Working to endow nurses' room.
St. Luke's Hospital, South Bethlehem, Pa.	56	6	...	4	...	One—business meeting.	Improvements made each year in the Nurses' Home of the Training-School. Fund raised that sick nurses may call on.

Alumnae Associations.	Membership.	New members.	Resignations.	Deaths.	Dismissed.	Meetings.	Work accomplished.
St. Joseph's Hospital, Chicago, Ill.	30	4	10	..	25	Ten—three business, six educational, one social.	A course in parliamentary drill given. Monthly meetings held at the different nurses' homes for literary and social purposes.
Michael Reese, Chicago, Ill.	57	8	24	2	1	Ten—business and social.	.....
Pittsburgh Training-School, Pittsburgh, Pa.	88	..	..	..	..	Ten meetings—monthly, except July and August, for business and social purposes.	Help given to sick members.
Jewish Hospital, Philadelphia, Pa.	29	3	..	..	2	Twelve—ten business, two social.	Working for an endowed room. Seventy-five dollars has been paid to sick members from the general fund of the association. Trying to help graduate of hospital (not a member of the alumnae) ill with tuberculosis in Colorado.
House of Mercy, Pittsfield.	64	5	..	..	3	Four—business, educational, and social.	Lectures given on educational matters. Nurses have made one thousand three hundred and fifty charitable calls on the sick of Pittsfield.
Newton Hospital.	50	4	1	..	..	Ten—business, educational, and social.	.....
Worcester City Hospital, Worcester, Mass.	80	10	3	..	3	Six meetings—five business, one social.	A sick benefit association started, for giving friendly and pecuniary assistance in sickness and death.
Boston and Massachusetts General Hospital.	215	19	1	1	..	Eight meetings—for business and social purposes.	Efforts being made to raise sick fund. Assistance given to graduate (not a member of the alumnae) in sickness.
Virginia Hospital, Richmond, Va.	45	7	2	1	..	Monthly meetings—(quorum 6 times) for business and social purposes.	Lecture course begun.
Salem Hospital, Mass.	50	6	2	..	..	Seventeen—ten educational, one social, six business.	The study of Shakespeare's plays, "Hamlet," "Merchant of Venice," "As You Like It," "Macbeth."
Farrand Training-School, Detroit, Mich.	213	18	..	..	..	Eight—business and educational.	Educational papers on "Hospital Economics" written. Contributions in money and work to "Visiting Nurse Association" of the city. A year's course in parliamentary law practice given by competent instructor.
Rochester City Hospital, Rochester, N. Y.	80	18	26	..	..	Four—business.	.....
Toledo Hospital, Toledo, Ohio.	56	4	2	..	..	Twelve—ten educational, two social.	Nine lectures delivered and papers read on educational subjects. Attendance at meetings better. Organization of a City Association accomplished.
New York Post-Graduate Hospital, New York.	188	33	1	..	..	Seven—business meetings.	.....
Roosevelt Hospital, New York.	96	15	2	..	..	Eight—business.	.....
St. Luke's Hospital, New Bedford, Mass.	36	2	..	..	..	Seven—business, educational, and social meetings.	.....
Allegheny General Hospital, Pa.	80	..	..	..	..	Twelve—business and social meetings.	A dance given by Class of 1900, and boat excursion by the association, proceeds of both given towards endowing a room for sick nurses in new hospital.
Methodist-Episcopal Hospital, Pa.	63	9	..	1	..	Nine—business, one social.	Working for endowment of room for nurses in hospital.
St. Luke's Hospital, St. Paul, Minn.	67	4	..	1	..	Three—business.	Hospital care to six nurses through Sick Benefit Fund.
Old Dominion Hospital, Richmond, Va.	35	2	1	..	..	Five—three business, and two social.	One member has charge of Domestic Training-School, two district nurses in city district-work, established in Leesburg, Va.

Alumnae Associations.	Membership.	New members	Resignations	Deaths	Dismissal.	Meetings.	Work accomplished.
Orange Memorial, Orange, N. J.	110	8	1	1		Four—three business and social, one annual. Lectures given at regular meetings after transaction of business, followed by refreshments and social hour.	Reception and tea given to graduating class, Hallow Een. Nurse employed to take charge of the anti-tubercular work in the Oranges. Representative delegate at all meetings of the anti-tubercular movement.
Boston City Hospital, Boston, Mass.	331	31				Six meetings—one business and social, one social, four executive.	.....
Augustana Hospital, Chicago, Ill.	53	10	4			Monthly—social and business.	Established monthly paper. Furnished room in new addition to hospital.
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Connecticut Training-School.	46	1	3			Six—business and social.	Study of ethics of nursing begun.
	84	7	1			Ten—business and social.	Working for nurses' home and State registration. Entertained State Association in November. Ten dollars sent to Ellen Robertson Fund. Several members responded to request for donation towards fund for endowing the course in Hospital Economics at Teachers College.
Erie County Hospital, Buffalo, N. Y.	59	16		2	8	Twelve—ten business, two social.	Incorporation of the Training-School.
Union Protestant Infirmary, Baltimore, Md.	26	2				Eight—principally for business.	.....
Provident Hospital, Chicago.	20	6			2	Monthly—educational and social.	Course of lectures given during winter.
Protestant Episcopal Hospital, Philadelphia, Pa.	139	23		1		Thirteen—for educational, social, and business purposes.	Course of talks on parliamentary law given. Some members doing district work.
Maryland Homeopathic Hospital, Baltimore, Md.	17	2				Six—business and social.	Increase of good feeling among members. Benefit paid to sick nurses. Graduating class entertained.
Alice Fisher, Philadelphia, Pa.	168	55		1	2	Ten—eight business, one social, one educational. (Lecture by the president of the Consumers' League.)	Two shares in THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF NURSING purchased. Social teas held after each business meeting.
Presbyterian Hospital, N. Y.	150	8		1		Monthly—business and social.	Members have attended lectures on parliamentary law, current topics, medicine, and surgery.
Kings County Hospital, Brooklyn, N. Y.	50	14		1		Five—business.	.....
St. Luke's, Chicago, Ill.	153	52	4			Twenty-eight—fourteen business, seven educational, seven social.	Monthly <i>Alumnae Journal</i> published, containing items of interest, minutes of all business meetings, etc. Project under discussion for getting out special calendar, the proceeds from the sale of which are to be added to the endowment fund. Sick benefit loan.
St. Luke's Hospital, New York City.	133	26	1			Nine meetings—eight business, one social.	.....
University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa.	131	10	1	1	6	Seventeen—ten business, five educational, two social.	Five lectures on parliamentary law. Donations to Italian settlement. Dance and reception given.
University of Maryland, Baltimore, Md.	88	12		2	1	Six—four business, two special.	Lectures and musicals given.

Alumnae Associations.	Membership.	New members.	Resignations.	Deaths.	Dismissal.	Meetings.	Work accomplished.
Lakeside Hospital, Chicago, Ill.	54	...	1	...	...	Six—business and social.	.....
Illinois Training-School, Chicago, Ill.	276	18	1	25	...	Eight—for educational, social, and business purposes.	Papers read on Central Directory and other subjects. Banquet and musical given. Lectures delivered on "Prevention of Tuberculosis," "Holland."
Hope Hospital, Fort Wayne, Ind.	35	8	...	...	...	Twelve—for business, educational, and social purposes.	Original papers read at meetings. Stimulus given to social life of the society.
Chicago Baptist Hospital, Chicago, Ill.	60	...	20	20	...	One—business meeting.	.....
N. E. Hospital, Roxbury.	77	6	...	1	...	Eight meetings held—business, educational, and social.	A share in club-house, and one in AMERICAN JOURNAL OF NURSING stock purchased. Lectures given and papers read by physicians and nurses. Topics discussed: "Progress in Nursing," "Hourly Nursing," "Registration," "Nursing in Public Schools." Paper on massage read by hospital masseuse. Basis secured for sick relief fund.
Rhode Island Hospital, R.I.	165	40	2	...	...	Nine—chiefly devoted to business.	Alumnae called a mass meeting of all graduate nurses in State to consider forming a State Association for purpose of obtaining State registration, resulting in the formation of the State Association and the presentation of a bill during January, 1905. A concert was given in November, the proceeds of which, five hundred and seventy dollars, was added to the Sick Benefit Fund for Nurses. In a charitable way we have given financial aid to three sick nurses.
Long Island College Hospital, Brooklyn, N. Y.	139	8	15	...	...	Eleven meetings—ten regular, and one special; for educational, business, and social purposes.	Lectures given by physicians. Charity nursing done. Progressive euchres held once a month, one thousand dollars raised, clearing entire debt for furnishing Central Registry.
Brooklyn Hospital, Brooklyn, N. Y.	113	3	7	...	...	Nine meetings—business and social.	Reception on Tenth Anniversary.
New York City Hospital, N. Y.	243	40	2	2	2	Ten—business, educational, and social.	.....
The Maine General Hospital, Portland, Me.	50	6	...	1	...	Monthly—business, educational, and social.	.....
Hahnemann Hospital, Chicago, Ill.	46	6	4	...	...	Twelve—four business, four social, four educational.	.....
North Adams, Mass.	25	4	1	...	...	Eight—business, and three lectures.	Banquet given graduating class and medical staff.
Germantown Hospital, Philadelphia, Pa.	45	5	...	1	...	Eleven—business, social, and educational.	Two lectures given.
German Hospital, N. Y.	80	9	2	...	...	Nine—business and social.	.....

\* Because of illness.

MISS CORNISH.—I move that the report of the Committee on Education be accepted.

Seconded by Miss Dewey and carried.

PRESIDENT.—I will call upon the secretary for the correspondence, and before she begins the reading of these messages that she will present to you I would like to state the message that was given to the delegates on their departure from Boston for this convention. You will remember that when we met in Boston two years ago our meeting was opened by the Rev. Edward Everett Hale, and when he learned that we were coming here he said, "Give my love to the nurses and my blessing, and tell them I am glad they are going to Washington."

MISS THORNTON.—I move that an official acknowledgment be sent to Dr. Hale for his message.

Seconded by Mrs. Bohling and carried.

The secretary read the following messages:

"DETROIT, MICH., Jan 22, 1905.

"Miss Mary E. Thornton, Secretary, The Nurses' Associated Alumnae of the United States.

"The Detroit Graduate Nurses' Association cordially invites the Nurses' Associated Alumnae of the United States to meet in Detroit in 1906.

"Yours sincerely,

"ROSE SMITH, Secretary.

"CHICAGO, ILL., May 4, 1905.

"Miss Mary E. Thornton, Secretary, The Nurses' Associated Alumnae of the United States in Convention at Washington, D. C.

"Greeting, best wishes for a successful meeting.

"NURSES' ALUMNAE OF ILLINOIS TRAINING-SCHOOL.

Miss Thornton said in reference to the last message that as it was sent on the first Thursday, the Illinois Alumnae was no doubt holding its meeting at that time; that a letter had come just before the convention from Mrs. Frederick Tice, the corresponding secretary of the Illinois State Association of Graduate Nurses, wishing for a happy and profitable meeting of the Associated Alumnae and expressing the hope she might have the pleasure of telegraphing before the convention was adjourned that the Illinois Nurses' bill was passed.\*

"SAN FRANCISCO, April 27, 1905.

"CALIFORNIA STATE NURSES' ASSOCIATION.

"To The Nurses' Associated Alumnae, in Washington assembled.

"The California State Nurses' Association sends greetings, and desires to state that we look forward with pleasure to meeting some of our co-workers from the East and Middle West. We trust that all nurses attending the conference in Portland in July will endeavor to visit San Francisco after the close of that session. The annual meeting of this association has been postponed until late in July or early in August in order that we may have the visiting nurses with us.

"We believe that a stronger bond for mutual good will be formed by meeting in California at this time, and we sincerely request that all nurses who can come to San Francisco after the Portland meeting will do so. Accommodations will be secured at reasonable rates if due notice be sent the secretary of this association.

"We will appreciate it very much if a list of the names of the nurses who intend visiting San Francisco can be sent us by July 1, all communications to be sent to the secretary, Miss Theresa Earles McCarthy, 1105 Van Ness Avenue.

"With best wishes for the success of your work in the coming year,

"Cordially yours,

"CALIFORNIA STATE NURSES' ASSOCIATION,

"THERESA EARLES MCCARTHY, Secretary."

\* The message arrived after the convention had adjourned.



**PRESIDENT.**—It seems proper at this time to repeat Miss Wald's request of last evening to you that all help possible be given Miss Waters, who is preparing a directory. She would like the names and addresses especially of district and visiting nurses. I would like to give an opportunity at this time for those visiting delegates who have come from their State societies to ask any questions or present any report or word from their associations. This is the opportunity now for the State societies.

**MRS. FOURNIER.**—I should like to know if there is any way for us to find out where to apply to the different Boards of State Examiners to find out from their past experience how to take steps in Indiana. We should like to have some information to take back, and I should like to get it from the boards of the different States which already have registration.

**PRESIDENT.**—There is a paper on Examining Boards later in the morning.

**MISS BARRETT.**—The graduate nurses throughout the State of Michigan met in Detroit May 10, 1904, to form the Michigan State Nurses' Association. The first annual meeting was held in Grand Rapids in March of this year. We now have a membership of over two hundred and forty. A bill for State registration was drafted and presented to the Legislature. It has passed the Senate unanimously and word has just come from Lansing that it is reported out of the House Committee and is put on the general order, to come up next week. No trouble is anticipated. As a society we have made concerted effort towards the Endowment Fund of Hospital Economics. Since March, 1905, two hundred and thirty-eight dollars and twenty-five cents has been contributed for that purpose.

**MISS DAVIS.**—I suppose that everyone knows that the Massachusetts State Nurses' Association is extremely complicated. Everyone knows about the troubles and sorrows of Massachusetts, and we have come here specially to-day not only to get the sympathy of the members of this meeting, but their advice and their remarks and criticisms on Massachusetts, and I hope that none will be backward in coming forward and telling us just exactly what they think of the condition there.

**MRS. HANGER.**—Madam President and co-workers, it gives me pleasure to have the privilege of briefly relating to you the progress of the Graduate Nurses' Association of Virginia during the past year.

In speaking of the law regulating our profession I can only echo the words of Miss Webb, our secretary and delegate of last year, "It has proven of interest and of great benefit to the nurses, the physicians, and to the public," and to add that we hope for an increase in the desire of the public to avail itself of the protection of this law. Registration has met with hearty support from almost all the schools of Virginia.

Immediately after the passage of the bill the faculty of one hospital held a meeting and agreed to raise the standard of the Training-School. The lecturing staffs are giving more attention to their work and small hospitals are affiliating with larger ones for lectures and classes, while others are sending their pupils away for special courses, which they are unable to give.

The first sixteen months of the existence of our law were most trying and arduous ones for the association and board. When registering nurses substantial credentials have been insisted upon, and in several cases we have been threatened with lawsuits because we have refused to register nurses presenting doubtful testimonials, but so far we have escaped, owing to the tact, good judgment, untiring energy, and patience of our president, Miss S. H. Cahaniss, towards

whom every nurse in Virginia should feel personal gratitude for the great good she has done us individually and collectively.

The board has issued three hundred and eighty-four certificates; of these, nine passed the regular examination given in January, 1905, and two others were given special ones, as they were in quarantine in January.

The hospitals in different sections of the State have been apportioned to members of the board for inspection in order that a definite idea of the curriculum of all schools may be obtained; for this purpose a list of questions has been prepared and will be filled by each inspector as she visits the schools. We hope that this may bring the board and schools in closer touch. The subject of instituting a Sick Benefit Fund has met with distinct approval from all societies of nurses in the State, and we hope to have a goodly sum towards the Sinking Fund at our meeting in Richmond, May 10, 11, and 12.

Much thought has been given the establishment of a home for the care of tubercular patients, and to Richmond we look for great things, as Misses Cabanias and Minor are especially interested in this matter.

Many interesting subjects, including the advisability of a domestic science course in our public schools, came up for discussion at our last meeting, and in Richmond we hope to continue them to some purpose, and we trust that next year will find us with much good accomplished.

MISS McMILLAN.—Illinois has a State association of about six hundred nurses. Our work this year has been entirely for State registration. Our bill was in Springfield early in the fall and it is still there. I would like to state, however, that we have had the support and assistance of the medical profession and the main organizations of the women of the State, and we rather hope that our bill may go through and are waiting hourly for news. During all this period of our work there has existed the most absolute harmony among the nurses of the State.

MISS MARTIN.—The society in Maryland has two hundred and sixty-seven members. At the Philadelphia meeting we reported that our bill had been signed by the Governor and we have really gotten into working order, and have the machinery all well oiled. We have received seventy-five applications for State registration and we have issued fifty-one certificates. We have no fears in Maryland, and I, being a Massachusetts nurse, sympathize very much with the Massachusetts nurses in their troubles and tribulations, and I think the tribulations of Maryland, if we have any, may be that we are looking forward to possible amendments of our bill, but I think that it is wonderful, when you know how the hospitals have tried in every way to come up to the standards of the bill. We have no fears in Maryland, but have some hopes in the future.

MISS PALMER.—There should be a word said regarding California conditions here. In the last mail before I left Rochester to come down here I received a letter from the secretary of the California State Society in which she told me that the president of the Board of Regents of the State of California had asked for a conference with the officers of the State association in regard to the work of the future and the appointment of the examiners. This is very gratifying, since the State association was obliged to leave the whole matter to the Board of Regents. That body, however, shows great inclination to conform to the wishes of the nurses' society.

MISS GRANT.—The Indiana State Nurses' Association is now eighteen months old, and we have an individual membership of two hundred and twelve. It was

formed on September 14, 1903, for the purpose of obtaining State registration in Indiana. The bill was approved in September, 1904, and was passed in January, 1905. We are now looking for information regarding the formation of the board. The association is affiliated with the Indianapolis Graduate Nurses' Association and with the Hope Hospital Nurses' Alumnae of Fort Wayne.

MISS FALCONER.—A mass meeting of the Rhode Island nurses was called in Providence on October 31, 1904. Eighty-six nurses were present and the subject of State registration was discussed. January 25, 1905, a charter was granted by the Secretary of State. A bill was drawn and presented to the Legislature on March 31. A public hearing was asked for by representatives of special hospitals. This was given on April 11 at the State House, before the Judiciary Committee. Those who were instrumental in drafting the bill felt that they had used the better and stronger points of many of the bills from other States, only to be told by those opposed to the measure that they had selected the very worst, and that, instead of protecting the public, it was quite evident that only Rhode Island Hospital nurses had been considered. We hope next year to have more favorable and satisfactory conditions to report.

MISS CAMERON.—I would say for New York that we have had our fourth annual meeting and things are going along very smoothly. To those who are forming Examining Boards I think our experience would indicate advance; we have held on to every privilege, took all we could get, and asked for more. Do not give up any power that offers itself and grasp everything in sight. You need all you can get and more too. The society is past the slighting stage, and while the growth is not so large it is steady and gratifying.

MISS PALMER.—It seems to me that it would be a very great help if when all of the members of the State associations come together at these annual meetings there could be a sort of an informal meeting or conference and discussion by the members of the board and the State officers who might be present. I am sure there are a great many questions we should like to settle at once and talk over in an informal way, and it would send us all home very much better informed and make it possible for us to work on more uniform lines. There are a great many points that in our relations with boards, trustees, or the Board of Regents or State officials can be discussed privately, but not publicly; they are what you might call family affairs, and we ought to get together and talk them over and find out what course has been taken in one State that might be of benefit to another. We might have a secretary or a chairman to call the members together and have an hour's talk during these conventions, when we might have just this kind of an informal convention.

PRESIDENT.—I think that point is most excellently made, and possibly Miss Palmer will call such a meeting at the end of this session, when all the delegates of the State societies, I am sure, will respond. An opportunity will be given now.

MISS PALMER.—I make that call now. If after this meeting is over all the delegates from the State societies will come over to this corner of the room we will have a little talk.

PRESIDENT.—We will ask Miss Alline to tell us something of the work of the class in Hospital Economics, its needs, etc.

MISS ALLINE.—I was asked to speak on the special needs of the Hospital Economics Course. As the circular for that purpose is just out and very definitely states the purpose of the course and its financial need and will be distributed, instead of discussing that side of the question I will try to answer some

of the questions most frequently asked by prospective applicants. The one that seems uppermost in the minds of some is, "Do you guarantee positions to graduates?" There are always more positions offered than can be supplied. Of the thirty-two members of the class who have completed the course twenty-three are in positions, others are in correspondence relative to positions in prospect, and still others are waiting for more inviting places to be offered. There is nothing to be promised in that way, but the course certainly is filled to overflowing with the best kind of opportunities to broaden and develop a bright woman. Ability cannot be produced, but if it is there, if there is the student mind and attitude, it finds at the college the proper environment and a stimulus that cannot help but make it grow and achieve good results. The details of the expense of the course will be given in the next number of *THE AMERICAN JOURNAL*, but considering it from the business standpoint we can only look upon it as an investment, and surely it pays a royalty. Eight months of culture and education for a graduate nurse is invaluable to herself and to the women she will have in her training in the years to come.

I wish again to remind you that a year—a school year—is not sufficient for all the work we would like to do or feel that we need to do. Our tendency is to overcrowd. We could well take all the time and strength of our students with the studies mentioned in the circular of information, but more often than otherwise there are various attractions in other departments of the college and university that must be taken as part of the general education we are seeking. The course is limited to thirty-six "points" (notice the schedule in the circular), and only thirty points are required. The wise student will carefully work over her programme and limit herself to as low a number of points as possible in order not to overdo by taking in the extras, which are quite as important, oftentimes, as the scheduled work. Circulars of information and copies of the appeal may be had by application to the secretary of the college or to myself. Visitors are always welcome at Teachers College.

The president asked Miss Damer to take the chair, as she wished to have the privilege of the floor.

MISS RIDDLE.—In view of what the State association has done in Michigan and in view of what the Superintendents' Society has been doing all these years for that course at Columbia College, and in view of the fact that they have done much for the graduate nurses, I would like to make a motion that we, the graduate nurses here assembled, do invest one hundred dollars of our surplus money in this work at Columbia to carry on the course for the next year.

Seconded by Miss Davis and carried, after which Miss Riddle resumed the chair.

PRESIDENT.—I would like to appoint at this time the Committee on Resolutions to report at the close of this meeting, and on that committee I will appoint Miss Tippet, Miss Rindlah, and Miss Rothfus.

MISS GOODRICH.—I would like to thank you in behalf of the Committee on Hospital Economics for your very generous assistance. I thank you as the chairman of the committee, because I feel that the needs of the class are very great and the interest we have in it is very great. I only hope that the association will feel so proud of it that they will be able to assist the class in this way, not only now but in the future.

PRESIDENT.—I will announce at this time before there is any possibility of dispersing that there will be a short executive session at the close of the pro-

gramme; we will be as expeditious as possible and have you dismissed as near the regular time as we can. We will continue the programme by calling for the first paper of the day.

### CLUB-HOUSES, HOSTELRIES, AND DIRECTORIES FOR NURSES

By MISS MARTHA M. RUSSELL

The Sloane Maternity, New York

"In June, 1893, among the papers presented to the section devoted to hospitals, dispensaries, and nursing at the International Congress of Charities, Correction, and Philanthropy was one by Miss Katharine L. Lett, then superintendent of St. Luke's Hospital, on 'Nurses' Homes.' In this paper, after discussing the essentials of a home for pupil nurses, she says: 'Good homes, however, are needed for our graduates. Establishing such homes has been discussed from time to time, but difficulties seemingly insurmountable always arise, so the idea has never become a reality, and the graduates go on living as they have always done, in boarding-houses more or less uncomfortable and certainly very forlorn.'

"It is the object of this paper to tell about some cases in which these 'insurmountable difficulties' have been conquered, and to outline the progress made by nurses during the past twelve years in providing for their efficient work by well-managed directories and for their comfortable living by club life in some form.

"At the second annual meeting of this society in 1899 Miss Mabel Mason, of the Brooklyn Hospital Alumnae, read a paper on 'Registries' which was very fully discussed and the necessity emphasized of having a broad-minded, clear-headed nurse who understood her public, her doctor, and her nurses in charge of the enterprise, as she alone could be expected to have the requisite wisdom for controlling the situation. One cause for anxiety spoken of in that discussion was the danger of the registries from undesirable members, and we still have cause for care on that score, although, with genuine American reliance on the cure-all of legislation, we trust the letters 'R.N.' will take care of that matter for us, and undoubtedly we are in a much better position than we were six years ago.

"The papers by Miss MacMillan, Miss Phillpotts, and Sister Ignatius on 'Central Registration' read at the last annual meeting showed that the nurses were still studying the problem, still believing that nurses should bear the responsibility of their own affairs, and still feeling that the problem was a difficult one.